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# The Daily Gamecock, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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# STUDENT SENATE HOPEFULS PREP FOR ELECTION

*President, vice president  
among seats up for grabs*

Jess Davis  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Election season is here again for USC, and not just because South Carolina holds early primaries.

Candidates for student Senate and the executive officers filed this week, but are not officially eligible to run until the Student Government office checks a few factors, like current GPA.

Two people are running for president and vice-president, and three are running for treasurer. For the student Senate, competitions range from fierce to flat, with hugely varied numbers of students running from each district.

Presidential candidates are Chase Stoudenmire, a third-year history student, and Nick Payne, a third-year economics student. For vice-president, third-year political science and philosophy student Allen Klump and third-year international studies student Jay Laura are running. The treasurer's race pits second-year political science student Alesha Brown against third-year public relations student John Carroll and third-year international business and finance student Sasha Noorani.

In student Senate, the arts and sciences and journalism districts are the most competitive with nearly three students running for every seat. From the arts and sciences, 45 students are running for 15 seats and in the journalism school, 11 students are running for four seats.

From the business school, 17 students are running for seven seats, but in other districts, competition is virtually

SENATE ● 4



Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Students are complaining that their mailboxes are being stuffed with unsolicited junk mail and magazines that they did not subscribe to. Student Body President Tommy Preston is among those who have filed complaints.

*Possible mail fraud  
leaves students  
with unwanted extras*

Kathleen Kemp  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Several students have reported receiving magazines in their USC post office boxes that they did not order.

Barry Meyers, director of the USC Postal Service, said the students are unsure if they were sent as a prank or as some sort of scam.

"There's not too much you can do other than contacting the magazine," Meyers said. "We're talking to each individual student as the problems arrive."

Myers said about nine students, including Student Body President Tommy Preston, have come forward.

"I'm one of those students," Preston said. "Last week I got some random magazines."

Preston said he is confident the USC postal service is doing its best to handle the issue.

"I think situations like this happen all the time — they target students," Preston said. "Luckily, we have a postal service that's trying to help students."

Myers said any tampering of mail is a felony because mail travels across state lines and that there are 24-hour cameras monitoring the Russell House mail room.

"If you know anyone who has been involved, please let us know," Meyers said.

Melissa Pearce, a first-year electrical engineering student, and her roommate, Rachel Hodges, a first-year pre-pharmacy student, have also received unordered magazines.

Pearce said she came back from Christmas break and found two issues of TV Guide in her post office box and has since received one more.

"When I got them I was like 'I hope they don't charge me,'" Pearce said. "I mean, I'm not really complaining, it tells me what's on TV. Free magazine."

Pearce also noticed that the magazines are addressed

SCAM ● 4

## Elections Violations

Election violations were filed against Jay Laura and Nick Payne with the Elections Commission last Friday.

The violation filed against Laura, a third-year international studies student and student body vice-president candidate, alleged that Laura spoke to The Daily Gamecock in an article titled "Hopefuls discuss student election." The violation cited code number 411.15 that says distribution of campaign materials and campaign speeches to student organizations cannot begin before the official candidate's meeting. The violation has said article attached. There were no complainants listed on the violation.

The second election violation filed against Payne, a third-year economics student and student body president candidate, alleged that Payne contacted the complainant about speaking to the Young Democrats at a meeting. The violation cited code number 411.12, which says candidates may not solicit organizations to set up speaking times until they have filed for office.

The election violations do not automatically take them out of the running. They will be heard in a meeting to decide if they are a warning or an infraction.

Dustin Akers and Alesha Brown were also in The Daily Gamecock article, but nothing has been filed against them.

Laura and Payne could not be reached for comment on this article.

— Jackie Alexander

# Political parties focus of meeting



Leslie Bennett  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The donkey and the elephant were thrown in the mix at the Association of African American Students' meeting Tuesday.

The meeting, titled "Democrats vs. Republicans," was hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Stephan Whaley, a third-year education student, began the meeting by presenting general knowledge of both parties. Members of the audience participated by naming notable members of each party and stereotypes associated with them.

House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn, D-S.C., and Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., were mentioned as notable Democrats. Students said blacks tend to be associated with the Democrats and

generally have blue-collar jobs.

Lamar Johnson, a first-year education student, said there was a time when the Republican Party was minority based.

"Now the tables have turned and blacks tend to be on the Democrats' side," Johnson said.

Audience members said Republicans tend to be viewed as white-collar capitalists who are mostly Southerners.

Whaley asked the audience about its party affiliations. People hesitated to answer but a few did.

Owen Black, a first-year marketing student, said he is currently on the Democratic side but will switch over to the Republican side when he gets older.

AAAS ● 4



## Sports

Former Mr. Basketball and All-American transfers to Carolina. Find out who it is and why he won't start next season on the team See page 10

## The Mix

Shopping online reveals a multitude of options, unique products not available in local stores. See page 7

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Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Gov. Mark Sanford holds a press conference Tuesday to announce his plan to streamline the South Carolina Constitution in an effort to allow voters to select constitutional officers.

# Sanford wants constitutional update

*Governor calls for overhaul of state's procedure to appoint future officers*

Nick Needham  
METRO EDITOR

Gov. Mark Sanford called again Tuesday for the passage of legislation by the state Senate that would allow South Carolina voters the choice to have the state's constitutional officers elected by voters or appointed by future governors.

In a press conference held at the State House, Sanford said it was time for the state's constitutional framework to change.

"Our constitution was drafted at a time when women nor black folks could participate," Sanford said.

Tuesday's press conference comes after Sanford made stops in Myrtle Beach

and North Charleston on Monday to rally support for the plan.

The overhaul of how state officers are put in office is one of several plans Sanford is trying to push through the General Assembly this year as part of his state government restructuring plan.

Several state senators and constitutional officers joined the governor to show support for his plan and encourage the Senate to vote on it by today.

Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer has been working with Sanford to help bring important issues to debate on the House floor.

However, when asked about his stance on the issue, Bauer said it wasn't

his place as president of the Senate to possibly influence the outcome of legislation.

"Have you ever in four years seen any impartiality in the Senate from me?" Bauer said.

Bauer said he did see benefits from both sides of the argument, citing his experience as chair of the Republican National Lieutenant Governor's Association.

"I say let the General Assembly take up the debate," Bauer said.

The legislation, if passed, would allow future governors to appoint the superintendent of education, adjutant general, commissioner of agriculture, comptroller general and secretary of state.

It would also allow the governor and lieutenant governor to run on the same ticket, much like the president and vice

president.

"Wednesday's votes in the Senate are about letting people decide the course for their government," said Commissioner of Agriculture Hugh Weathers. "If the people come back and say let's keep things as they are, then so be it."

State Treasurer Thomas Ravenel fully supports the governor's plan and said getting officers appointed was important if we are to compete with our neighboring states.

"I believe that the government ought to be accountable for its actions, as should the public officials we elect to office," Ravenel said.

Sanford called for a stronger level of accountability in state government that can't be achieved by a committee.

Several senators who support the plan said S.C.'s

governor lacks the power to be a chief executive, calling the appointment of state officers the last hurdle in overcoming the barriers of the 1895 state constitution.

The century-old constitution was drafted under Gov. Ben Tillman, who severely limited the rights of women and blacks in the state, including

segregating public schools.

"The buck has to stop somewhere," Sanford said.

The bill needs a two-thirds majority vote to pass in the Senate before the House will take up the issue in the coming weeks.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockmetro@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:gamecockmetro@gwm.sc.edu)

**What would you like to ask the governor?**

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Fri. 1/26 • 9 PM  
Sat. 1/27 • 9 PM  
Sun. 1/28 • 9 PM



SENATE • Continued from 1

nonexistent.

Three students are running for two spots from the pharmacy graduate school, and an equal number of students are running for available seats from the schools of hotel, restaurant and sports management and education.

In other districts, not enough students are running to fill the available seats. Current vice president Ryan Holt is the only student running for Senate from the Law School and two students are running for three seats from the engineering school.

Then there are the districts with no one running at all. From the medical school, public health, music, nursing and social work districts, no candidates filed.

Presidential candidate

Payne said he doesn't want to be known as "the Greek candidate," though he's a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. Payne said he's more interested in service.

"I'm really into giving back to something that's given to me so much," Payne said.

Payne said he should stand out to students because of his involvement with student organizations other than SG, though he did serve as a senator this fall.

"Being in a lot of different things than just Student Government has helped shape me," he said. He has branched out and gotten a feel for different areas, Payne said.

More than anything, Payne wants to see USC advance. Citing a Wall Street Journal article that named USC an "up and comer," Payne said he wants to be part of helping the

school move forward and "forge excellence."

Payne's opponent, Stoudenmire, released a prepared statement saying he thinks his experience with Student Government through his college career — he was on freshman council and served as a senator and Senate President Pro Tempore — prove his leadership ability.

Stoudenmire said he wants to "continue the tradition of effective leadership within Student Government."

Vice-presidential candidate Klump has also been heavily involved in SG.

He was elected to the student Senate his freshman year, took a semester off to spend it in Washington D.C., and rejoined the Senate this fall.

He said the main reason he is running is "to give back to the students everything

I've wished for at USC and more."

Klump said his experience in SG and leadership ability give him the ability to "leave Carolina better than when I first got here."

He said he understand the intricacies of the student Senate, including the lengthy codes, which is a necessity for the vice president, he said.

"I know what works and how to get things done," Klump said.

His opponent, Laura, couldn't be reached for comment Tuesday evening.

In the treasurer's race, the three students all say they want to make it easier for student organizations to get money to fund their activities.

Brown said she doesn't like to see student organization officers struggling to understand budgets because they are effectively

performing community service by leading organizations and "you shouldn't have to struggle to perform" service.

She also said she wants to make SG more accountable to students by letting the "average student," someone who isn't in the SG office every day, know where his or her money is going.

"I'm really passionate, and I really care about it," she said.

Carroll, who waited outside the SG office at 8:30 Monday morning to file as soon as the office was open and ready for filings, said he got "attached" to student organizations while working as current Student Body President Tommy Preston's cabinet secretary of organizational affairs.

"I know how they all need money," Carroll said.

Carroll said the key to students being happy with

their time at USC is getting involved and feeling like they have a piece of USC to own, and charity and service organizations are some of the biggest ways students help USC.

Finally, Noorani said her knowledge of finance gives her the biggest advantage in running for treasurer.

She said she wants to use her "skills and knowledge to help out my community" and to make it easier for student organizations to get funding for the programs that benefit all students.

Noorani is serving as a senator and has worked previously as a clerk to the vice-president.

Official campaigning can't start until after an evening meeting Jan. 30, and the election will be Feb. 19 and 20 on VIP.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gum.sc.edu



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Kelly Bobrow / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Some students make themselves targets of mail fraud by pre-entering their combination.

SCAM • Continued from 1

with a shortened version of her name, which is also a nickname she uses around friends.

Hodges has received unordered issues of Ladies' Home Journal, Shape, Blender and OK! magazines.

"When I came back [from break] there were two of each in my mailbox," Hodges said. "I knew I didn't order them."

Hodges said she received a suspicious phone call on her dorm room phone last semester and is not sure if it's related to the magazines.

"They asked me for my Discover Card number and told me I qualified to win \$10,000 and a diamond watch or something, and they said they were going to send me some magazines for \$3 each and if I liked them, I could subscribe to them," Hodges said. "I didn't give them any of my info."

Both Hodges and Pearce said they just took the

magazines because they didn't know what else to do, and as of yet, no one has contacted them for payment.

Meyers said one way students make themselves easy targets for scams, identity theft and mail fraud is by "pre-setting" their locks, or pre-entering their combinations so it will take less time to open their mailboxes on future visits. Also, students often throw junk mail containing their name and post office box number in the trash or recycling bin.

"We get a lot of things like credit card [applications]," Meyers said. "Students should never just throw them away — always shred them."

Meyers said while there is a shredder in the Russell House mailroom, it is not large enough to cater to all the post office boxes. Meyers said he plans to look into purchasing one for mailroom users.

Vicky Adams, the manager of USC Quick Copy, which is

next to the mailroom on the bottom floor of the Russell House, said students could bring junk mail there to be shredded.

"We had about a half dozen [students] last year that would just come in, hand me their mail, and we'd shred it," she said. "We don't have [a shredder] just sitting out, but if students want it done, we'll do it."

Meyers said he believes a similar scam happened several years ago. Also, he said the affected students do not seem to have anything obvious in common other than being USC post office box users and that the magazines received range from Ladies' Home Journal to Maxim.

"One young man has been getting a fashion magazine," Meyers said. "This guy could be the middle linebacker for Steve Spurrier, so I'm pretty sure he didn't order it."

Both Meyers and Preston urge students who have received these magazines or any other suspicious mail to contact the post office as well as the company the magazines came from.

"I encourage students, if they do receive [unwanted] magazines, send back the magazines as well as tell the companies," Preston said. "Personally, I contacted the company and told them I had no interest in those magazines."

Pearce said she doesn't hold the mail service responsible for monitoring junk mail.


"Some people do get magazines, so I guess it's hard to track," Pearce said.

"Anyone who has access to the student directory has access to your information," Pearce said.

Students can report any sort of mail fraud on the United States Postal Service Web site.

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gum.sc.edu

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# RHA president requests help to fill Senate seats

*Wilkins promises to assist passing important residential legislation, discusses spring budget*

Ashleigh Orthen  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Resident Hall Association held its weekly meeting Tuesday night in Russell House to discuss new semester issues and to pass the semester budget.

Ryan Wilson, Safe Zone Coordinator, asked RHA if they would co-sponsor their Tunnel of Violence event to be held on April 24 because they are \$1,000 short. Keith Boykin, Leading Commentator in Issues of Race and Sexual Orientation, will be speaking.

Yesi Calixto-Mendez of the Gamecock Leadership Society, talked on behalf of its 21st annual Student Leadership and Diversity Conference.

She asked RHA if they would come out and support the conference.

Terrill Wilkins, RHA president, told his Senate he needed the members help to find seats in the Senate that are unfilled.

"We have no idea which halls are not being represented," Wilkins said.

Wilkins also told the members he was going to help out a lot more when it comes to passing important

legislation dealing with residents.

"I'm going to try to be a lot more interactive to help you guys pass legislation and make more important decisions," Wilkins said.

Jonathan Ross, vice president of RHA, encouraged all of them to consider ways they can be more active with the large sum of money they have been given through the budget.

Amanda Pippin, treasurer of RHA, introduced the new semester budget. She pushed the members to start working together for how they are going to spend the money they have been allocated.

"Bates House did a great job," Pippin said. "They spent the most money last semester."

Pippin submitted and introduced the budget to the members, which passed. She asked that the present funds in the D114 Account, \$49,000 (including spring activity fees), be used at the discretion of the committee chairs, members and the RHA Treasurer.

Conferences will be given \$3,850, Programming Committee will be given \$12,175, Community

Service Committee will be given \$8,986 and Campus Concerns will be allotted \$1,320.

Many of the committees gave reports on how they would use the money.

Campus Concerns is putting a program Jan. 30, called Campus Safety Walk. They are asking RHA members to come out and help take photographs of the dangerous areas of campus.

Community Service announced Steve Moore, a comedian, will be speaking at the AIDS benefit dinner, called Dining with Friends, which is put on by hall government. Moore will be coming for \$3,000, including travel expenses.

Gwyn Pauley spoke on behalf of programming. She announced it will be holding a Snow Day at Carolina, a Masquerade Ball set for March 31, and a NCAA Tournament set for April 2.

The Masquerade Ball will be a formal/semi-formal event. Tickets will be \$10 and \$20 at the door. All of the money goes to Make-A-Wish Foundation and their goal is \$5,000.

Jeremy Grenadier, Resident Services Chair, said Bates West will be repainted and they are busy helping to enforce the new visitation policy.

*Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu*

## AAAS • Continued from 1

"They know how to capitalize and make money. I plan to be financially well off when I'm older," Black said.

The meeting continued with the history of political ideologies. Whaley briefly discussed the Democratic-Republican Party, the Federalist Party and the election of 1860. He also talked about President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Depression-era New Deal program.

Alex Kinlaw, a second-year political science student, said he forgot about there being a Democratic-Republican Party.

"You get so used to seeing those parties separately and tend not to think back to when it was a single party," Kinlaw said.

Whaley focused on each party's platform and noted

the importance of knowing where a party stands, especially when it is time to vote. He said the Democrats focus on prosperity, progress and peace. In terms of prosperity, they want the public to be as well off as possible. They want to make progress in terms of a successful and prosperous future. They want the war in Iraq to end and things returned to a peaceful state.

Whaley continued by discussing how the Republicans favor tax cuts, gun ownership rights and school vouchers. He also said they are against abortion and against racial quotas such as affirmative action.

"With me being an education major, this was good practice for me," Whaley said. "We have to take an interest in our

public schools."

Anthony Chung, a second-year marketing student, said there was a good view of both sides.

"Sometimes, people's preference for a certain party causes them to give a one-sided view," Chung said. "One party will look good but not the other."

The meeting concluded with Whaley encouraging everyone to be active and to take time to vote.

Black said blacks should take their issues to everyone, and not just their own community.

"If we take it beyond the community, we have a better chance of getting our voice heard and our issues addressed," Black said. "We have to make our opinions known."

*Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gwm.sc.edu*

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IN OUR OPINION

Poor parenting affects, aggravates community

When 3-year-old Elly Kulesza refused to put on her seat belt and sit down after boarding an airplane, a flight attendant made a wise decision to ask the family to leave the aircraft.

The AirTran flight from Fort Myers, Fla., to Boston was delayed 15 minutes and the toddler was causing a commotion. To avoid further delays, the right choice was made.

Those 112 other passengers should be thankful that someone finally told Elly's parents their daughter's tantrums wouldn't be acceptable in public anymore.

Anyone who's ever been to Wal-Mart knows how bratty children are today, as they walk all over their push-over parents. It's parents like the Kuleszas that make shows like "Supernanny" necessary, not to mention popular.

Poor parenting doesn't just affect that child, it annoys people who want to enjoy shopping, movies or flights without a screaming brat yelling because she doesn't want to do what she is told.

Our generation has enough stories to fill a book about punishments as children, everything from having your favorite toy thrown out the window to spankings in the bathroom after throwing a fit.

A recent legislation proposal in California to ban spanking on children three and under has drawn national media attention and debate. But with stories like Elly's making headline news alongside such legislation, it is clear that today's tots need a little tough love.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at gamecockopinions@gwm.sc.edu

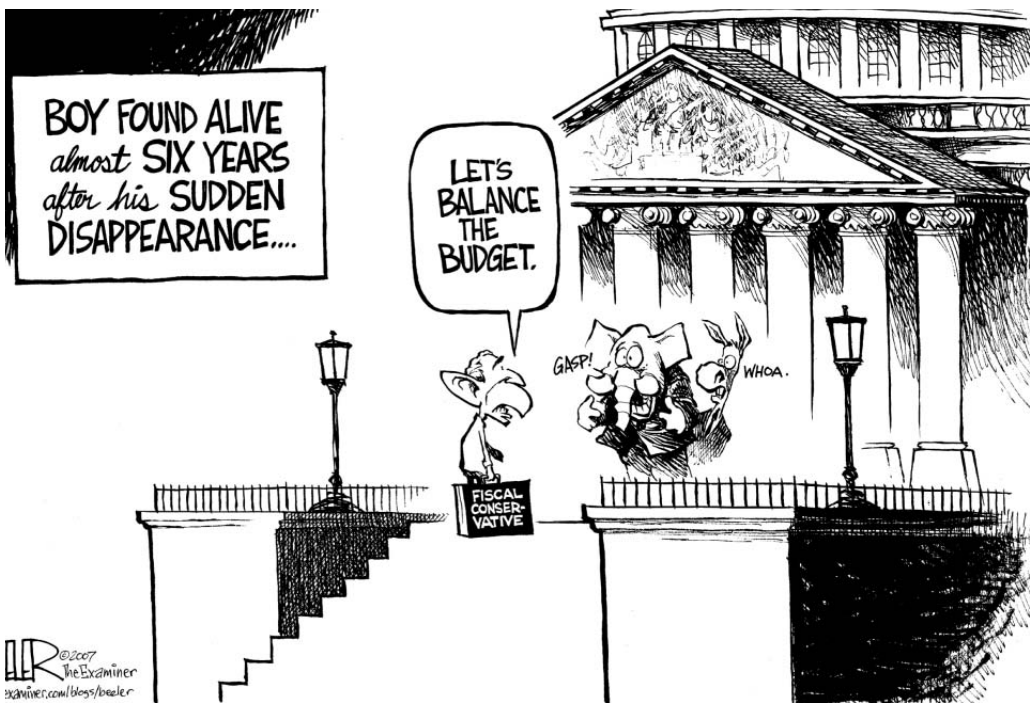
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The Daily Gamecock is the editorially independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.



FAIR, BALANCED AND MISBEHAVED

Former CIA spy dishes career critique

Government institutions provide great experience, but should trim down fat

"People imagine being a spy as really glamorous. I certainly did. In reality, you're kind of like a glorified car salesman, only what you are selling is treason."

Meet ex-CIA "spook" Lindsay Moran, who kindly agreed to extol her wisdom after my imploring for an interview. While her unorthodox analogy finally explains James Bond's creepy slicked-back hair and penchant for showcasing his pants "half-off," Moran's other unique viewpoints offer even greater insight.

In her thrilling memoir "Blowing My Cover," Moran leads us through a torrent of intrigue, where she eloquently pens about her past case officer lifestyle and harsh "spy craft" training in the CIA's infamous "Farm."

Traditionally, my optimistic sentiments about our government's institutions prevail over the whirling anti-establishment vitriol that is currently en vogue. However, these loyal convictions nearly went AWOL after the CIA's



MICHAEL STEVENS

Fourth-year international studies student

recent snafus, which caused the most patriotic of us to groan louder than Teddy Kennedy's weight scale. I groped blindly for a life preserver as I desperately

clung to the hope that Moran would float my confidence back up to the familiar surface. Tragically, she tossed me an anchor when she pronounced that the CIA was a defunct agency that was "mired on its own bureaucracy," and would rather microwave a smurf than take any real risks.

Yeah, but Langley is making us safer in the war on terrorism, right? "Sadly, not," Moran admitted (cue underwater gurgling). "The CIA really miscalculated by not being forthright with the administration and the American public about what the probable aftermath of invading Iraq would be."

In reference to Osama bin Laden's survival, Moran partially pinned this gaffe on other global demands

that spread the Agency's resources far too thin. Whew, an air pocket! But then she went on to explain that the CIA should be disbanded altogether with a new, smaller, sleeker organization created from scratch.

Just before my lungs imploded, she encouraged university students to still give the enigmatic agency a try, in spite of her caustic opinions.

"Go for it!" she insisted, "It's hard to get into the agency and, for me, it wasn't all it was cracked up to be, but I wouldn't trade my experience there for anything in the world."

Just before I became fish food, I hastily paddled my way above the surf with the faith that the CIA's untold triumphs and achievements far outweighed its public blunders.

After all, when asked just how often she worked alongside little space aliens and flew giant UFOs, Lindsay shockingly responded, "Oh, that was my SPECIALTY." I thought so ... now kindly "tractor-beam" me to shore, and remove that beeping device from my rear.

Bush needs Jim Henson to help image

Muppets, special effects key to lightening up sour mood of administration

History bestows upon every president an epithet that sums up his service. Prime examples include Abraham "The Great Emancipator" Lincoln, Franklin "Crazy Legs" Roosevelt and Chester "Who?" Arthur.

Since Bush's time as commander-in-chief is nigh, he needs to start thinking about his legacy. How will our nation remember him?

Right now, things don't look so good for the man.

The whole Iraq situation is festering like a big pile of camel poo on the White House lawn.

Perhaps this is his fault, but might it also be due in part to the media's apparent distaste for the man?

What the president needs to do is harness this media attention and use it to his advantage by portraying himself as a cultured, venerated politician.

The challenge is figuring out a way to do this with grace and esteem. I'd like to offer a few suggestions.

First, appeal to the younger crowds by spicing



GEORGE STEVENS

Fourth-year visual communications student

up public addresses. More specifically, deliver them in rap form. Something like, "They call me G-Dub, and I'm a two term playa; my new Iraq initiative is gonna slay ya!"

Dick Cheney should, of course, be beat boxing in the background as an imposing Karl Rove, clad in a pair of Dr. Dre shades with arms folded, nods his head slowly.

And how about throwing some new characters into the act?

I suggest an elderly, highfalootin' liberal named "Lefty" who sits in a balcony. He'll be in stage right, holding a pair of ornate theater binoculars and making disparaging comments about Bush's statements.

But, a smart-alecky ragtime pianist named Louie will be there to poke fun at Lefty's cynicism and play brief musical segues.

For instance, Bush will say, "We need to reach a peaceable solution in Iraq."

Then Lefty will groan and mutter, "I think it's past that!" Then Louie will call out to the audience, "The only thing it's past is Lefty's bedtime!" and then spin around and play a few bars of "Maple Leaf Rag" during the laugh.

Finally, a grand finale should conclude every press conference. It will feature the president and all the members of his cabinet forming a kick line and dancing to "You're a Grand Old Flag."

When the line, "the home of the free and the brave" is sung, a cannon blast will trigger an enormous American flag to unfurl toward the back of the stage, and a bald eagle will swoop down and land stoically on Bush's shoulder.

And, as if I need to say it, there must be copious amounts of pyrotechnics.

If you ask me, this is fail-safe.

People will remember Bush as the funky president, the guy who wasn't afraid to mix work with play and have some laughs along the way. He'll be George "Fun and Gun" Bush.

Oh, and one more thing: Always wear the flight suit.

Cell phone users need to hang up rude habits

New etiquette list includes updating your ring tone, speaking to other humans

Folks, something really has me steamed. The thing that has me in such a tizzy (love that word) is the etiquette, or lack thereof, surrounding cell phone use.

It's clear that cell phones are an integral part of our lives. There is hardly a person in America without a cell phone (and I bet some animals have them, too).

Even my technology-hating grandfather has a cell phone. This is a man who refuses to use a mouse on his computer because he's "analog."

The point is that cell phones are embedded into American society. As such, they need to be regulated with manners and rules like all other aspects of social behavior.

I have taken it upon myself to start the forming of these societal rules for cell phones.

First and foremost, when talking on a cell phone, or any other phone for that matter, do not talk like you are in the middle of a hurricane. Cell phones have this magic ability to pick up what you say, even when you are speaking in a normal tone.

Too often I hear people blabbing away to their friends about how their cat has a tumor the size of an orange on her head. I don't want to hear that crap.

Stop screaming into cell phones. If the other party can't hear you, tell the person to turn up the volume.

Next, those infamous cell ring tones. I plead with you, all of you, please use a cell ring that is not the default for that phone. I know most ring tones cost money, but it is totally worth it.

There is nothing more annoying than hearing the same darn ring every two seconds and then having everyone answer their respective phones not knowing whose rang.

With that said, do not buy your favorite rap song. I understand you love 50 Cent (who doesn't), but that doesn't mean we all want to hear that when your phone rings.

Plus, you don't want everyone to hear about how "High All the Time" he apparently is while you are meeting your significant other's parents.

Lastly, I would like to address when to use your cell phone. My biggest pet peeve (of several) is when you are in the middle of a conversation with someone, and the person answers his/her phone and immediately enters a new conversation with the caller.

If you are talking to someone, and someone else comes up, you don't immediately ignore the original person, so don't pick up the phone (unless it's an emergency, of course).

That is all I have for now. After all, I have limited space here.



DREW ZOLIDES

First-year philosophy student



Dr. Style

## Tending to your fashion woes

Justin Fenner  
THE MIX EDITOR

Dear Dr. Style,  
Is it a fashion faux pas to wear diamonds and pearls at the same time? I really love my jewelry, and I think I look particularly great in my Mikimoto and Tiffany. But are those things too ornate for everyday wear? They're the last things I put on before I leave my house for classes, and I'd never had anyone tell me directly that they look bad on me. It's just that lately I think it's too much. Is this something I need to be worried about?

Gaudy in Gucci

Dear Gaudy,  
A general rule of thumb is that ladies shouldn't wear diamonds and pearls before 10 a.m. And, more importantly, the two precious gems should never, ever be worn together. While this is an old rule, I always advise my female friends to follow it because it's one of the many that perpetuate the ideal that less is always more.

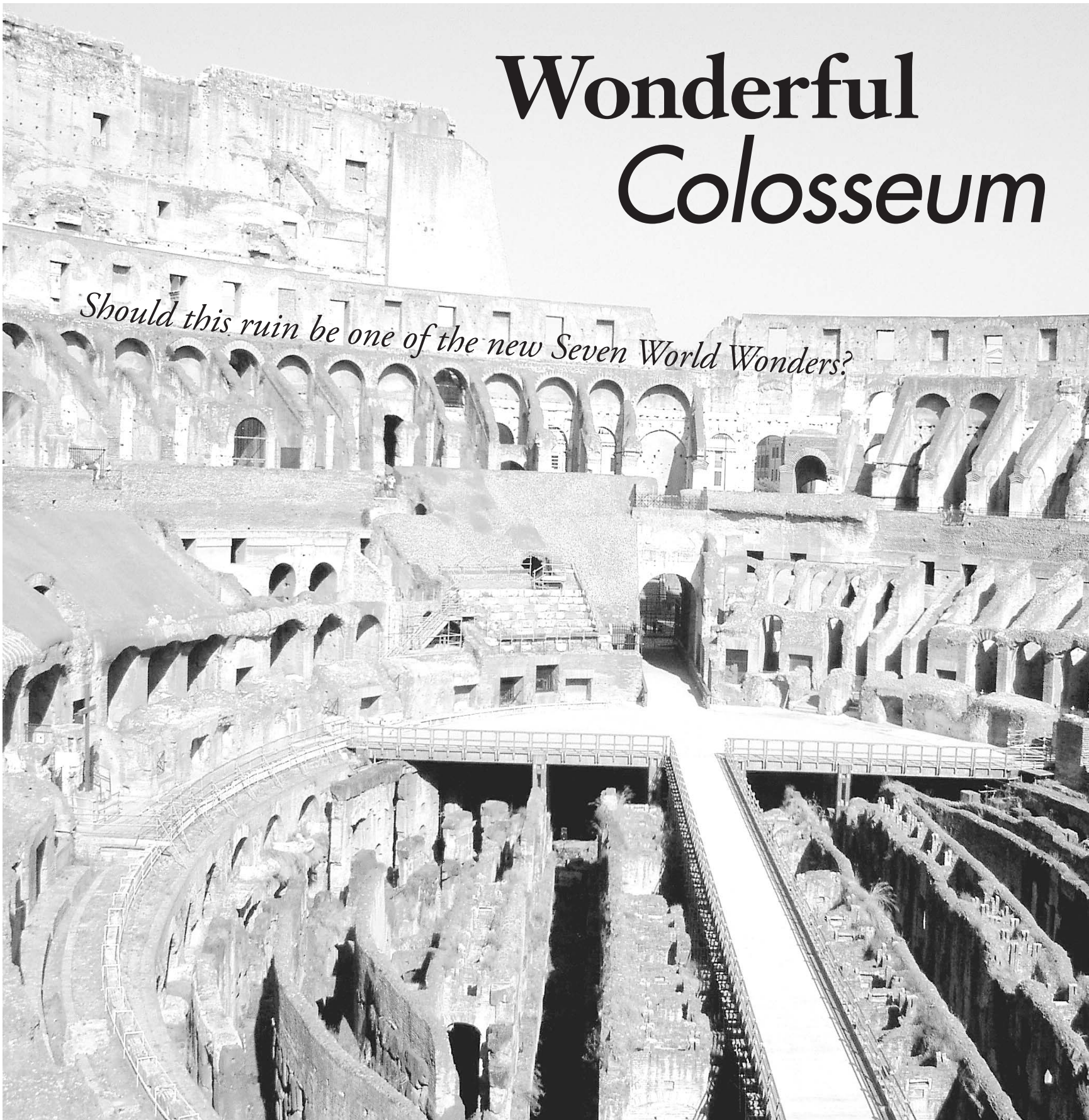
And besides that, wearing too much jewelry can be vulgar in its own way. Vulgarian, even — you run the risk of looking like you're trying to appear wealthier or of a higher class than others, and that can turn some people off.

The time element comes in as a way to stave off wearing important pieces of jewelry unless you're attending an evening function. I like to think this applies to diamonds more than pearls.

Women wear pearl necklaces because the natural luminescence of solidified oyster spit reflects soft light onto their faces. It only makes sense to wear them when the sun is out, so I think pearls during the daytime is just fine. And of course, practicality rules in this situation. If you have a 9 a.m. class, you don't want to have to throw your precious pearls into your purse with things that might scratch them up or damage the clasp, so go ahead and put them on!

Keep in mind that there are plenty of acceptable alternatives to pearls. While pearls do tend to signify the wearer's sense of style and grace, glass and plastic beads can be just as stylish and stunning.

And, without question, engagement and wedding rings are exempt from this part of the jewelry etiquette. The diamond, the hardest substance on earth, represents a love that will stand the test of time. Taking off something so special would be wrong, so those rings should be worn at all times.



*Should this ruin be one of the new Seven World Wonders?*

Special to The Daily Gamecock

Roman emperors threw lavish parties in the Colosseum, an architectural masterpiece in Rome where many gladiators fought and died.

Claire Sprague  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Colosseum in Rome, Italy is one of 21 structures nominated for the New7Wonders program.

On Jan. 1, the program named its top 21 and opened voting to the world. The winner will be named July 7.

The Daily Gamecock wants the Colosseum to win one of the coveted seven spots. Here's a brief history on our favorite arena.

**Where:** Rome, Italy - between the Esquiline and Caelian Hills

**What:** The Colosseum (also spelled "Coliseum") is an amphitheater used in ancient Roman times

to hold gladiator battles, animal hunts, executions, and other unique and bloody spectacles. No show was ever small-scale: The emperor Trajan was said to have celebrated his victories with contests involving 11,000 animals and 10,000 gladiators that lasted 123 days.

Oddly enough, though the Colosseum is widely believed to be the site of mock naval battles and many famous records of Christian martyrdom, such events were more likely held in other theatres within the empire. After the fall of the Roman Empire, it was used as everything from housing to a quarry to a Christian shrine.

**When:** 70 to 82 A.D.

**Who:** It was begun by

the emperor Vespasian, inaugurated by Titus, and completed by Domitian. This ruling family gave it the formal name of the Flavian Amphitheater.

**How:** The Colosseum was constructed using Roman masonry and careful mathematical detail. For the architecture and art history buffs, it features Classical, Doric, Ionic and Corinthian columns as well as Corinthian pilasters. It also has 80 walls, 80 entrances, 3 tiers of seating, and a canopy that could be released for shade using brackets and masts. It is considered to be one of the most impressive monuments in Rome, if only for its massive size. The base covers about 6 acres, and it's about as tall

as a 15-story building. It has seating for up to 50,000 spectators and beneath the wooden floor rests the remains of a complex system of tunnels and trap doors for fighters and wild animals.

**Why:** While there may be other places in the world to pose with men in leather skirts and flashy headgear, this one has to be the most historic. It's easy to get to by bus or on the Metro, and the tickets usually won't cost an arm and a leg.

Located close by are the Roman Forum and the main shopping district for those not interested in history.

Though the official "World Wonder" decision is still up in the air, this

local wonder has long been a national symbol for Italy and the subject of art and pop culture from ancient times through today.

Bruce Lee even fought Chuck Norris in the Colosseum in the 1972 movie "Return of the Dragon." Now where else are you going to find an epic battle like that? If you're lucky, you might even catch one of the concerts held just outside of the Colosseum. Recent performers who have rocked out in the ancient rubble include Ray Charles (May 2002), Paul McCartney (May 2003) and Sir Elton John (September 2005).

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu)

## Web stores bring funkiness to your fingertips



Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Forget going from store to store. Sweet clothing finds are just a few mouse clicks away.

*Special gifts are easy to find with online gift, clothing shops*

Lauren Smith  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

**www.mables.com**  
★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

When shopping online, one of the problems a shopper can run across is the overabundance of online stores. The creators of Mable's Unique Gifts have attempted to address this by offering their services to the world.

Mable's was originally an online store specializing in vintage items, strange toys and other unique things, but it is now a search and review site that seeks out the same

things on other shopping Web sites such as eBay and ThinkGeek. For instance, the "World of Fun" section has a feature on the iHome iPod radio that includes a link to the iHome Web site as well as links to auctions for the radios on eBay.

A nice feature of the site is the shopping blog that features a new product each day and provides links to sites where you can buy the featured items. The most recent postings include things such as a custom dog harness, a build your own robot kit and a water-powered clock.

Two other great features are the site's fun '80s style layout and simple navigation. By compiling all of the site's items into six categories, the site's owners have

streamlined the process of finding what you want.

All in all, Mable's is definitely worth a look.

**www.fredflare.com**  
★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆☆

One of the sites featured at Mable's is FredFlare. Unlike Mable's, FredFlare is a heavily featured shopping site that specializes in cute items and clothing. In addition to the main store, the site also has a blog covering celebrity antics and product specials, a podcast and a "boombox" to listen to while you shop.

A downside to FredFlare is its layout. While everything on the site is labeled clearly and easy to navigate, the chances of finding an exact item on the site are pretty





Special to THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Meryl Streep stars as Runway editor Miranda Priestly in "The Devil Wears Prada."

## Let the party planning begin...

### Oscar Nominations

The nominations for the 79th Academy Awards were announced Tuesday, and The Mix staff couldn't be more excited about seeing who has a chance to win. There are so many battles that are too close to call — take a look and decide for yourself.

### Best Actress in a Leading Role

Penelope Cruz — "Volver"  
Judi Dench — "Notes on

a Scandal"

Helen Mirren — "The Queen"

Meryl Streep — "The Devil Wears Prada"

Kate Winslet — "Little Children"

### Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Adriana Barraza — "Babel"

Cate Blanchett — "Notes on a Scandal"

Abigail Breslin — "Little Miss Sunshine"

Jennifer Hudson — "Dreamgirls"

Rinko Kikuchi — "Babel"

Peter O'Toole — "Venus"  
Will Smith — "The Pursuit of Happyness"  
Forest Whitaker — "The Last King of Scotland"

### Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Alan Arkin — "Little Miss Sunshine"

Jackie Earle Haley — "Little Children"

Djimon Hounsou — "Blood Diamond"

Eddie Murphy — "Dreamgirls"

Mark Wahlberg — "The Departed"

### Best Picture of the Year

"Babel"  
"The Departed"  
"Letters from Iwo Jima"  
"Little Miss Sunshine"  
"The Queen"

### Best Actor in a Leading Role

Leonardo DiCaprio — "Blood Diamond"

Ryan Gosling — "Half Nelson"

### SHOP • Continued from 7

much non-existent, so it's hard not to end up just browsing around.

This isn't necessarily a bad thing. FredFlare has plenty of cute things in stock, including a kitchen timer shaped like a mushroom and earrings shaped like cassette tapes or cupcakes. On the other hand, those deliciously cute earrings could cost you a stomach-churning \$40 a pair.

Thankfully, FredFlare's sale section usually has considerably deep discounts on discontinued items, such as the "Bling-Bling" safety pin and "E.T." necklace. The discounts tend to go as high as 80 percent off the normal price.

If you don't mind spending a little extra for something cute, give FredFlare a shot.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamedcockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:gamedcockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu)

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## Check out our blog:

[thedailygamecock.blogspot.com](http://thedailygamecock.blogspot.com)

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT



## Want to start a business?

**Student Business Incubator Center applications will become available February 12th!**

## Need Help Organizing Your Budget???

SG Treasurer, **Jennifer Guest** will be holding sessions to help Student Organizations create a practical budget.

Sessions will be held on the following:

February 5th: 6p.m.-7p.m. RH/Rm 348

February 6th: 7p.m.-9p.m. RH/Rm 348

February 7th: 7p.m.-9p.m. RH/Rm 301

February 8th: 6p.m.-8p.m. RH/Rm 348

## Student Government Scholarships

Three \$500 scholarships will go to a Freshman, a Current USC Student, and a Senior planning to attend graduate school at USC.

Applications are available online & in 227 Russell House.

Applications will be due Wednesday, February 21st by 4pm.

For more information, please check out [www.sg.sc.edu/scholarships.htm](http://www.sg.sc.edu/scholarships.htm).

## The Green Action Film Series continues!

Al Gore's film, "The Inconvenient Truth" will be shown on Monday January 29th @ 7:30p.m. (Gambrell 250) and

Wednesday, January 31st @ 7:30p.m. (West Quad Learning Center)

Both screenings will be followed by a discussion led by Greg Carbone, USC's resident expert on climate issues.

Pizza and Soda will be provided at the West Quad Screening!



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[www.sg.sc.edu](http://www.sg.sc.edu)

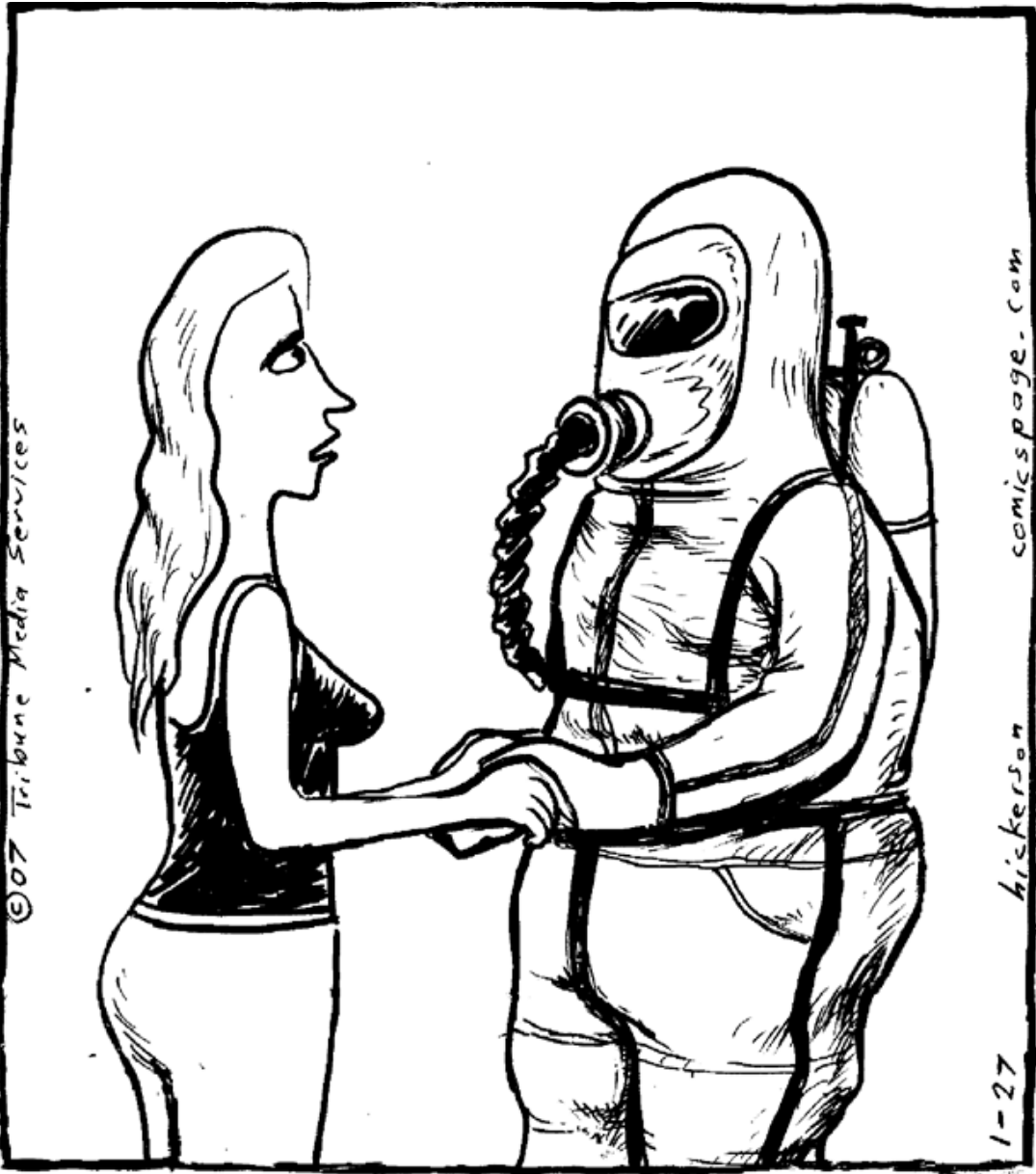


PIC OF THE DAY



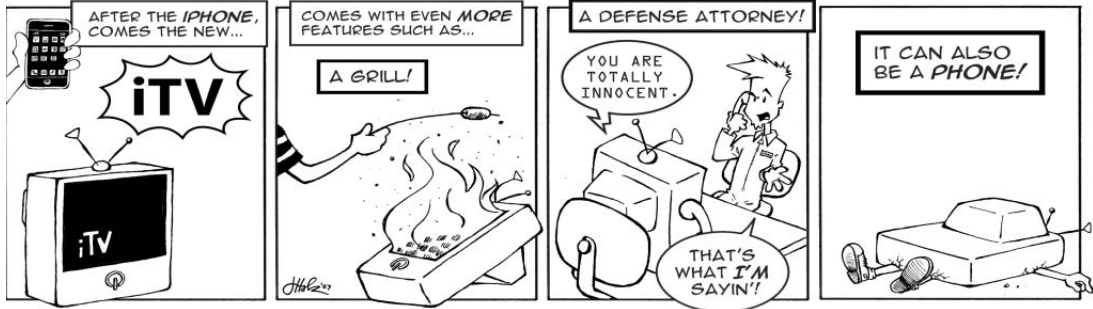
Cocky tries to ring an octopus at a game at the Unity Week carnival on Greene Street Tuesday afternoon. Unity Week celebrations are scheduled through Friday.

Quigmans ♦ By Buddy Hickerson



“Oh, Johnny ... if you love me unconditionally, why are you wearing a hazmat suit?”

Heads and Tails ♦ By Jonathan Hughes / The Daily Gamecock



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**COMING FOR FALL 2007!**

**Sudoku** By Michael Mephram 01/24/07

		5		7	2			
2	8	4	1	5				
							3	
9		1		5			6	
		6			4			
	3			2	9			5
	6							
			3		4	1	2	8
		3	8		7			

**Level 1 2 3 4**

**How to Play**  
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

**Solutions to Tuesday's Sudoku**

4	1	6	9	2	3	7	5	8
5	9	8	7	1	6	2	3	4
2	3	7	4	5	8	9	1	6
1	7	3	8	6	5	4	2	9
8	2	4	3	9	7	1	6	5
6	5	9	1	4	2	8	7	3
9	6	5	2	7	4	3	8	1
7	8	1	5	3	9	6	4	2
3	4	2	6	8	1	5	9	7

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the scene at USC

“Rent”



TONIGHT

**THE DIRTY LOWDOWN, SUGAR JONES**  
New Brookland Tavern  
122 State St.  
\$5 over 21, \$7 under 21  
8 p.m.

**“RENT”**  
Koger Center for the Arts  
1051 Greene St.

\$37, \$43 or \$49  
7:30 p.m.

UPCOMING

**LILY TOMLIN**  
Friday, Jan. 26  
Koger Center for the Arts  
1051 Greene St.  
\$15 for students  
8 p.m.

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** You should be feeling more assertive, but you still need to take care. You can get to the prize, but there are hurdles between here and there.

**TAURUS** You’re under pressure to produce the results you’ve promised.

**GEMINI** Give yourself plenty of time for meetings. Share ideas with your team. Don’t worry about having all the answers, yet. Choose responsibilities.

**CANCER** You’ll see that, with strong leadership, you can proceed with confidence.

**LEO** Take action now on whatever it is that you’ve been contemplating. Decisions made now will be beneficial in more ways than you can imagine.

**VIRGO** You’re very good with money, as everybody knows. Right now, for example, you can use somebody else’s to get something for your home.

**LIBRA** Ask for another point of view, and assistance from afar.

**SCORPIO** Push now with enthusiasm. Buy something to speed up the process, and improve efficiency.

**SAGITTARIUS** If you just don’t feel like working now, there’s astrological confirmation.

**CAPRICORN** Your income is steady and that always helps you relax and concentrate. Ask for advice and support from your family, they’ll be there for you.

**AQUARIUS** Your friends came up with the suggestion, and you can make it happen. More study will be required, and now’s the best time to begin.

**PISCES** Invest in your career and get something that will go up in value. You probably already have the perfect item all picked out.

Crossword Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1/24/07

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  - 20 H. Greeley’s misguidance?
  - 23 “Treasure Island” auth.
  - 24 “Norma \_\_\_”
  - 25 “Come Back, Little \_\_\_”
  - 28 Prof’s aides
  - 31 Tabriz resident
  - 35 Old seafarer
  - 36 James Dean’s misguided movie?
  - 39 Historic times
  - 41 Gulf of Mex. neighbor
  - 42 Condensations
  - 43 Misplaced musical?
  - 46 Spike or Pinky
  - 47 Dirty tactic
  - 48 Make lace
  - 49 Dizzying pictures
  - 51 CD—
  - 53 Broadcast
  - 54 Dislocated Nick Nolte movie?
  - 63 Singer Vince
  - 64 Contaminate
  - 65 Cut back
  - 66 For two, in music
  - 67 Kemo Sabe’s pal
  - 68 GNP subj.
  - 69 Dweeb’s pal?
  - 70 Odorific compound
  - 71 Camera part

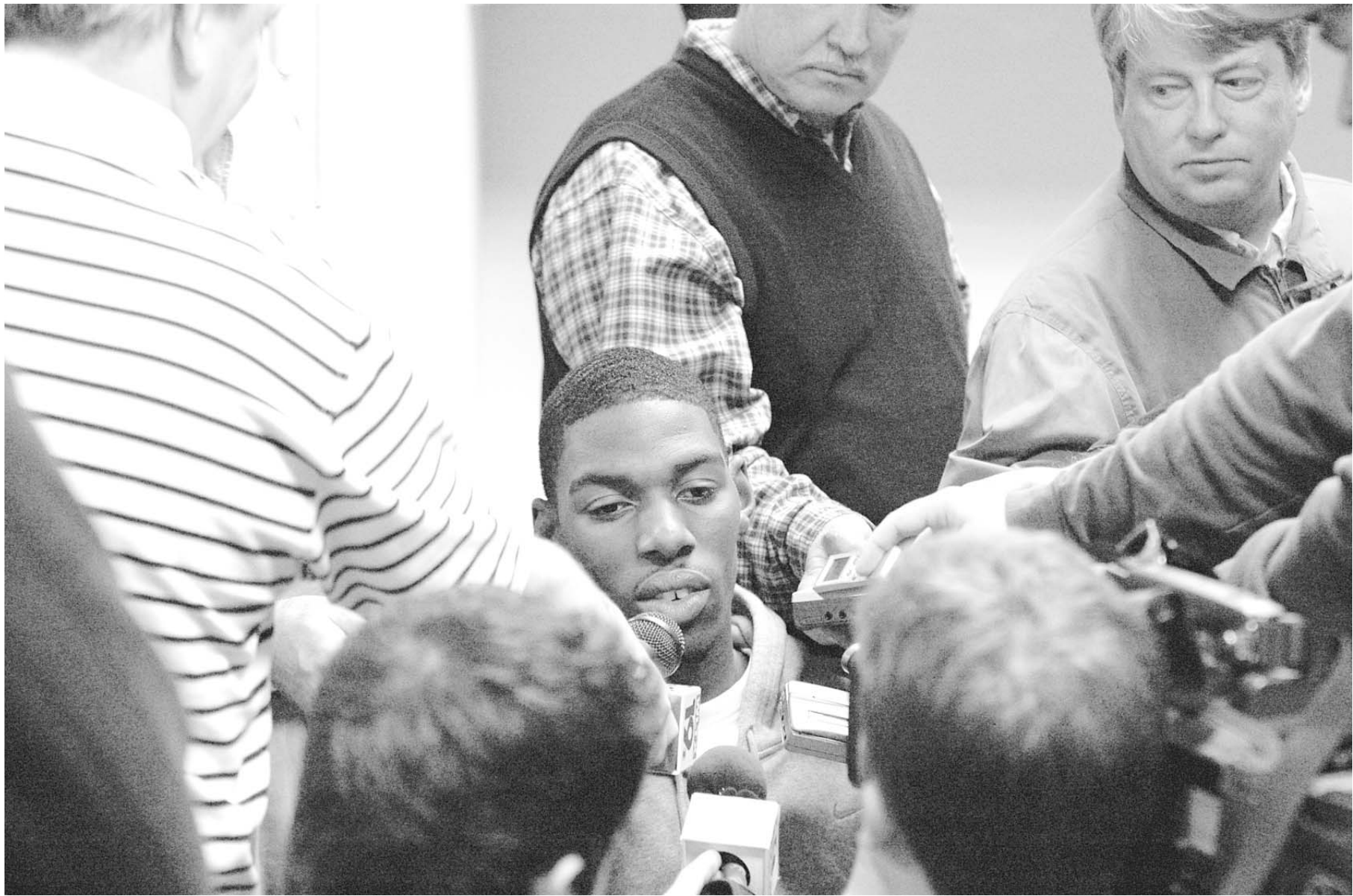
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**Solutions from Tuesday**

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- 37 Andes tuber
- 38 Geisha’s sash
- 40 Taken aback
- 44 Urge
- 45 Hairdo
- 50 Push forward
- 52 Photo finish
- 53 John Jacob \_\_\_
- 54 Alaska’s first governor
- 55 Adjutant
- 56 Utter indistinctly
- 57 Asian nation
- 58 Dryer
- 59 Pay to play
- 60 Daytona 500, e.g.
- 61 Disney sci-fi flick
- 62 Urges
- 61 Optimistic
- 65 Census category





Mike Jones, surrounded by reporters, chooses to return home to play for the Gamecocks after a semester with the Orange at Syracuse University.

# Jones comes back to Columbia

*Celebrated forward won't see court until December 2007*

Alex Riley  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Mike Jones summed up why in one sentence, "It feels good to be back home." After spending one semester in snowy Syracuse, N.Y., former Lower Richland basketball star and McDonald's All-American Mike Jones transferred to

USC and joined the men's basketball program. "We're delighted he's here," said USC head coach Dave Odom. "I think he's going to make a real impact on our team." Jones is one of three former Mr. Basketball's for the Palmetto State who has transferred from a major Division-I program to Carolina in the last year. "I knew I was coming back home, because South Carolina was my second choice in the recruiting process anyway," Jones said. "There wasn't any other school, just South Carolina."

After originally signing with Syracuse out of high school, Jones chose to return south in hopes it would be easier for his family to see him play. "Near the (winter) break when my family wasn't there to watch me play, I realized I should be closer to home to playing in front of my family," Jones said. "After the game, I would just go back to my room and think about all the good things I did in the game and I'm like 'my mom didn't see it.'" Jones admitted that his reasoning behind choosing to play for Syracuse in the beginning had a lot to do

with the opportunity to play for a team that had achieved a large amount of success in recent years. "I just wanted to go up for the opportunity," Jones said. "I don't regret my decision. It helped me. That's a big stage up there." Odom said his newest enrollee will not begin practicing with the team like fellow transfers Devon Downey and Zam Frederick. "Just having them back doesn't guarantee anything except an opportunity. Now we've got to make it right," Odom said. Jones said there will be

some adjustment to not being on the court until December 2007, but is ready to face the challenge in front of him. "I'm still going to be working out but right now I'm not concerned about basketball ball," Jones said. "I just want to get off to a good academic start so I'll be able to play when I'm supposed to play." When asked how he played, Jones said he was "a team player, a winner." "We're going to be real good next year," Jones said.

Comments on this story? E-mail gckspmts@gwm.sc.edu

*Dave Odom deserves one more season before firing*

**New All-American players should reveal if coach can take team to next level**

Mike Jones. Who? Mike Jones. Sorry, I just couldn't resist. But like the rapper, Dave Odom's newest player is a pretty big deal. Jones, a former Lower Richland phenom, left Syracuse after one season for the Orange and will return home to join fellow Mr. Basketball for South Carolina players Zam Frederick and Devon Downey. And now, we wait. We wait for a 2006-07 season that has been dismal at times to come to an end so we can get ready for next season when all three of these superstars will take the court after their first semester comes to a close. We wait to see if two guards and a forward really will help Carolina turn into an SEC contender. But most of all, we wait to see if Odom can take this talent and turn it into success. No one can argue that Odom has gotten the most out of what he has brought into the Colonial Center. Carlos Powell, Renaldo Balkman, Tarence Kinsey and Tre Kelley aren't exactly the next portion of the Dream Team. All four are decent basketball players who worked hard and earned what they got.



ALEX RILEY  
Third-year print journalism student

JONES ● 11

# Gamecocks shoot for first SEC win against Hogs

*USC, Arkansas tip off at Colonial Center tonight*

Michael Aguilar  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Gamecocks finally showed up in a basketball game. Last Saturday night the Gamecocks looked like a basketball team that deserved to play in one of the premier athletic conferences in the nation for the first time since conference play started. Head coach Dave Odom believes the team is coming back from a long stretch of bad luck and injuries and should be improving as the season goes on. "If we continue having good practices and better performances very soon we can begin to be competitive and win basketball games," Odom said. "We are holding ourselves accountable. We are a little bit healthier. Hopefully all that will transfer to we are getting better." Now, the Arkansas Razorbacks are paying the Colonial Center a visit, and Carolina has a chance to turn the season around with a victory over an Arkansas team that has proved to be a legitimate competitor in the SEC this season. The Gamecocks are fully aware of the capabilities of the team they are going to face Wednesday night. "Arkansas is one of the most talented teams in our league. They are also the tallest team; we've had problems with tall teams. They can score, too," Odom said. "It will be a difficult assignment for us, but I am looking forward to it." Arkansas is 2-3, a record that does not seem too impressive until the teams the Razorbacks played and the actual scores of the games are considered. The two victories came over two teams that were ranked in the top 20 in the nation at the time of the game; both of those victories were also won by 20 or more points. The three losses involve two games that were decided by 3 points or less. The only

one lost by more than 3 points was against Florida. The Gators were ranked second in the nation at the time the teams played. The Guard/forward combo of freshman Patrick Beverly and junior Charles Thomas lead the Razorbacks offensively. Beverly is averaging 13.5 points per game and is an early favorite for a freshman All-American spot. Thomas is close behind with 12 points per game and gives the Razorbacks an inside presence on the offensive side of the ball. The Gamecocks will need to play excellent defense to keep the game close. Arkansas is a team that likes to run and Carolina has played well at high speeds so far this season. So, strong defense by senior point guard Tre Kelley, junior guard Dwayne Day and freshman Evaldas Baniulis will keep the fast-paced Arkansas offense in check. The Gamecock offense faces a tough challenge in the defense that Arkansas runs. The Razorbacks feature junior 7-foot center Steven Hill. Hill has become known around the SEC for his long hair and even longer reach. The center leads the SEC in blocks per game and runs the defensive paint with a ferocity matched by very few players in the nation. It will be up to Kelley to keep Hill on his toes and away from where the Carolina is trying score. "You don't want to tell players to not take shots inside," Odom said. "But Steven Hill blocks too many shots." It will take an all around great performance from the Gamecocks to beat a solid Arkansas team. After the showing in Tennessee this could be the game where the whole Carolina team wakes up and starts playing to its ability. Tip off is 7:30 tonight.

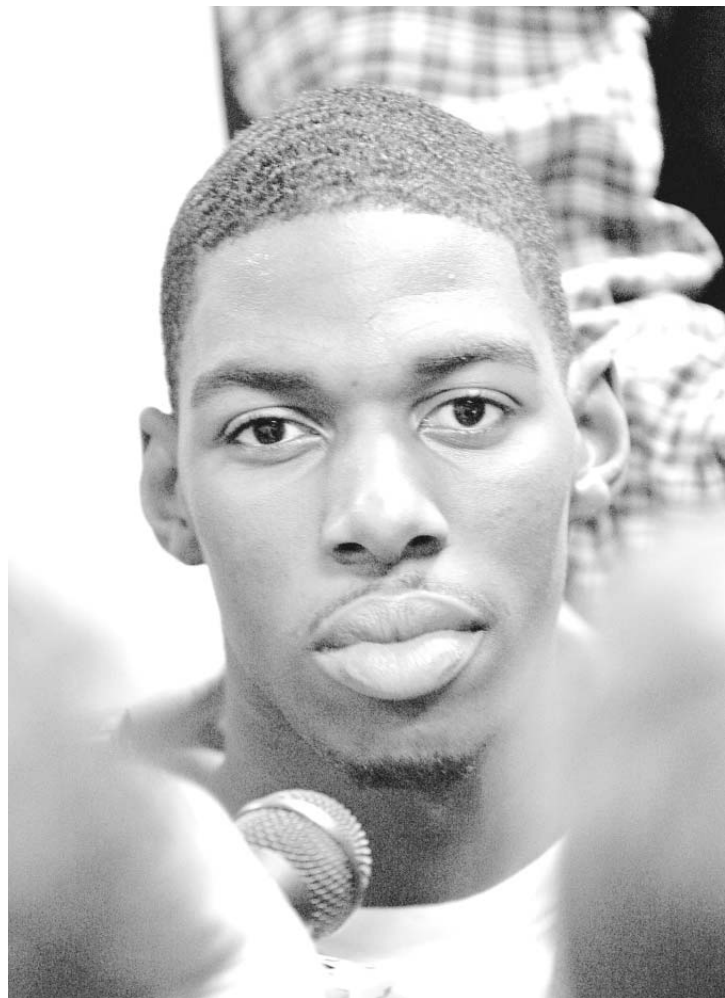
Comments on this story? E-mail gckspmts@gwm.sc.edu



Meg Gaillard / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Senior point guard Tre Kelley dribbles past a Kentucky defender last week. Kelley and the rest of the Gamecocks will try for their first SEC victory since Auburn in March 2006.





Juan Blas / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

**Mike Jones hopes to improve the Gamecocks' front court.**

**JONES • Continued from 10**

But who could have foreseen Odom producing two NBA players (including a first-rounder), the No. 6 all-time leading scorer in USC history (who is currently playing basketball overseas), and arguably the best point guard in the SEC out of that group (Happy belated birthday, Tre).

So if Odom can take talent that isn't the definition of greatness and turn it into records, championships and success, what can he do with a group of guys who played at some of the most reputable basketball programs in the country before deciding to return home?

While the reasons all three chose to take their

game elsewhere first remain unknown, all that matters for the future is their return to the program, which should set USC up with talent for the next few years.

Currently, the Gamecocks sit with very little hope of salvaging a season that has seen the program play extremely well one night and extremely awful the next. Where the real hope lies is in the fact that next season the roster will be loaded with depth and skill at the majority of the positions.

While this season looks to be one many fans would like to soon forget, Odom and his team are preparing to be competitive now so that success will be applicable in the future. An outlook that appears pretty bright to me.

# Tennis team set for Bucs

*East Tennessee State visit USC women for season opener*

Michael Finnegan  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The University of South Carolina women's tennis team opens up its spring slate hosting the Buccaneers of East Tennessee State today at 5 p.m. East Tennessee already has four dual matches under its belt entering the contest 2-2. Both losses came to future ranked SEC opponents in No. 12 Vanderbilt and No. 19 Kentucky.

The sophomore duo of Gira Schofield and Natasha Vuckovic looks to start off where they ended their stellar freshman seasons.

Schofield played every match at No. 1 singles

and No. 1 doubles. She was always ranked in the top 100 in the ITA singles rankings, which earned her a trip to the NCAA singles championship. The Florida native was only the second freshman in USC history to make it to the NCAA in her first year.

The other freshman sensation, Vuckovic, looks to pick up right where she left off. Vuckovic played the majority of matches at No. 2 singles and played alongside Schofield at No. 1 singles for the majority of matches. Vuckovic, along with Schofield, was an All-SEC second team selection. The Serbian led the team with wins, compiling a 26-15 record, including a 6-5 record against tough, SEC competition.

Vuckovic and Schofield welcome the addition of the talented highly recruited freshman Ana Marija Zubori. Zubori is looking

to take the momentum from her great fall season. She finished the fall with a record of 13-3, which included two tournament titles and one runner-up. Coach Elkins knows the importance of having another solid player at the top of the lineup.

Coach Elkins said, "Ana also is a player who will give us strength at the top of the lineup, which we need to compete with not only the SEC's best, but the nation's best as well."

ETSU is also looking for another freshman to make some noise at the top of the lineup. Yevgeniya Stupak is looking to continue her strong play. After a successful fall campaign, she was ranked No. 23 in the Southeast Region according to the ITA. Already on the season, she is 2-2 with her two losses coming against Kentucky and Vanderbilt.

ETSU is looking to get back to the NCAA

tournament as they are the returning Atlantic-10 Conference Champions. From that squad, they are returning both their No. 1 and their No. 2 singles players.

Coach Elkins is looking for this team to improve upon its 12-11 record from last season and make their thirteenth straight trip to the NCAA tournament. However, Coach Elkins doesn't want to stop there.

"Additionally, we want to be among the final 16 at NAAs and we want to have representation in the NCAA Singles and Doubles Championships," said Elkins. Another goal of the team and Elkins is to improve upon their eighth place finish last year and earn a top-four seed to get a first round bye in the SEC tournament.

*Comments on this story? E-mail gckspmts@gwm.sc.edu*

## Timberwolves fire Casey for bad start

**Inaugural head coaching job ends in termination after four-straight losses**

*The Associated Press*

Dwane Casey lasted less than 1 1/2 seasons in Minnesota in his first head coaching job, unable to solve the Timberwolves' inconsistencies and thrust them back into the thick of the competitive Western Conference.

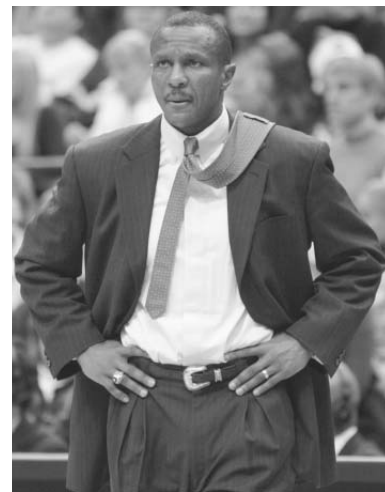
The Timberwolves looked to be turning the corner at the start of the new year, when they opened 2007 with seven wins in their first eight games.

But Casey watched as they lost their next four games, including one to Phoenix without leading scorers Kevin Garnett and Ricky Davis, who were suspended.

Garnett was suspended by the league for a

confrontation with Detroit's Antonio McDyess, while Davis was suspended by the team for acting out during Friday night's game with the Pistons.

Casey's firing was confirmed by team spokesman Mike Cristaldi. General manager Jim Stack declined comment and Casey and his agent did not immediately return messages left by The Associated Press.



The Associated Press

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